

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 12149 300453Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /115 W

-----107800 300459Z /13

R 300435Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5706

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12149

DEPARTMENT PASS USGS AND US BURMINES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG IN

SUBJECT: FIRST WELL IN CAUVERY OFFSHORE BASIN TURNS OUT TO BE DRY

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA FROM MADRAS

AUG 26 IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

UNCLAS MADRAS 1381

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG IN

SUBJECT: FIRST WELL IN CAUVERY OFFSHORE BASIN TURNS OUT

TO BE DRY

REF: MADRAS 1326 AND PREVIOUS

1. THE ASAMERA GROUP OF CANADA, WHICH BEGAN DRILLING THE
FIRST WELL FOR OIL IN THE CAUVERY OFFSHORE BASIN IN MAY 1977,

HAS ABANDONED FURTHER DRILLING AFTER REACHING A
TOTAL DEPTH OF 12,150 FEET. THE WELL LOCATED IN THE GULF OF

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MANNAR, 80 KILOMETERS FROM THE TUTICORIN PORT, HAS BELIED
EARLIER EXPECTATIONS OF FINDING OIL AT THREE POSSIBLE LEVELS AND
HAS TURNED OUT TO BE DRY. REPRESENTATIVES FROM
ASAMERA ARE NOW EXPECTED TO VISIT INDIA IN OCTOBER FOR FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE GOI OWNED ONGC
TO PLAN THE FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION.

2. ACCORDING TO A REPORT IN "THE HINDU" OF AUGUST 26, ONGC OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE FIRST WELL PROVIDES INDICATIONS OF OIL DEPOSITS IN THE AREA, IN SPITE OF TURNING OUT TO BE DRY. ONGC AND ASAMERA OFFICIALS WANT TO JOINTLY EVALUATE THE DATEA PROVIDED BY THE FIRST WELL TO SELECT NEW LOCATIONS FOR DRILLING.

3. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORT, THE ONGC OFFICIALS WILL USE THE SEISMIC SHIP "ANWESHAK" FOR MORE DETAILED SISMIC SURVEY OF THE KARAIKAL REGION WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN RELINQUISHED BY ASAMERA AS A POOR PROSPECT. ONGC OFFICIALS CONSIDER THE KARAIKAL REGION TO BE A GOOD PROSPECT FOLLOWING THE FIND IN MARCH 1977 OF INTERMITTENT OIL FLOW AVERAGING 1.5 TONS A DAY IN AN ONSHORE WELL LOCATED AT TITTA-CHERRY, NEAR THE SEA COAST, IN THE SEA COAST, IN THE KARAIKAL DIVISION OF PONDICHERRY. MCCASKILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE DRILLING, PETROLEUM, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Reference: 77 MADRAS 1326
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1657701
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST WELL IN CAUVERY OFFSHORE BASIN TURNS OUT TO BE DRY FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA FROM MADRAS AUG 26 IS REPEATED FOR YOU R INFO
TAGS: ENRG, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
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